The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m. by Council of Basic Education Chairman James Barker.

Attending:

James Agras  Sandra Dungee  Glenn (via phone)  Mollie Phillips (via phone)  Justin Reynolds
Carol Aichle  James Grandon  Kirk Hallett  Colleen Sheehan (via phone)  Craig Snider
Jay Badams  Donald LeCompte  Jonathan Peri
James Barker
Wendy Beetlestone  Karen Farmer White  A. Lee Williams

The minutes of the July 10, 2014 meeting of the State Board for Vocational Education were approved on a Grandon/Williams motion.

COMMITTEE REPORT

VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

James Agras, Committee Chairman, provided an update on activity from the September 10, 2014, meeting of the Vocational-Technical Education Committee. Mr. Agras reported that the Committee acted to approve accreditation applications from Greater Johnstown Career and Technology Center and Clearfield County Career and Technology Center and recommends approval of the applications by the full Board. He noted that the Department also made a positive recommendation of each application for re-accreditation.

Mr. Agras said the Committee also approved the Connellsville Area School District’s petition for recognition as a single district Career and Technology Center and that the Committee recommends positive action on it by the full Board. He said the petition is being presented to close the loop on the transition of CTE service delivery that occurred in 2001 when the North Fayette Area Vocational Technical School was dissolved. At that time, appropriate steps were not taken to consider Connellsville for approval as a single district provider of CTE programs for its students.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Dr. Lee Burket, Director, highlighted the following items from the written report prepared by the Bureau of Career and Technical Education (BCTE):
Perkins IV

Perkins IV Local Plan applications for 2014-15 continue to require program offerings aligned to industry standards and also must address state developed Programs of Study (POS) aligned with state High Priority Occupations (HPO). All POS must include a statewide articulation agreement signed by the Department and postsecondary Perkins recipients. Local Plans for 2014-15 were due by August 31, 2014. All 2014-15 Perkins recipients must file an action plan based on a “root cause analysis” for each performance indicator the recipient did not meet and all applications must document an approvable POS for which each postsecondary recipient partner has signed the Perkins statewide articulation agreement(s).

Program Approval

The Program Standards and Quality Assurance Division will visit 44 schools with approved programs to complete an approved evaluation of each program. Each visit is conducted by a team of volunteers from other schools, supervised by Bureau staff program specialists. Volunteers review each approved career and technical education program at the school to ensure each program is meeting levels of performance on each performance indicator and is complying with applicable regulations.

There were 72 requests for new career and technical education programs submitted for approval for the 2014-15 school year. Department staff are reviewing the requests and schools will be notified if their programs are approved.

Career Counseling

BCTE continues to provide training sessions to educate school counselors and administrators on five goals of career counseling: 1) demonstrate the rationale and power of effectively using counselors in the central mission of each school by building relationships with all students over time; 2) provide an overview and application of the tools and resources available in the Pennsylvania Guide to the American School Counselor Association Model; 3) work in groups with all three levels of school counselors to begin the development of their K-12 guidance plan; 4) develop business/community and postsecondary stakeholder relationships that will enhance K-12 career development that will include development of resources and experiences for all students; and, 5) begin integration of the Career Education and Work academic standards throughout the K-12 system. Thus far, 18 out of 29 Intermediate Units, 113 school districts and 21 career and technical centers have been involved in the trainings and have either initiated or completed a K-12 career counseling program.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jackie Cullen, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Association of Career and Technical Administrators, commended the Board and the Department on its accreditation process. Ms. Cullen also commended Dr. Burket for her work in making Pennsylvania the first state in the country to have statewide articulation agreements under Perkins IV.
ACTION ITEMS

RE-ACCREDITATION OF CLEARFIELD COUNTY CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER

A motion to approve re-accreditation of Clearfield County Career and Technology Center’s postsecondary programs for a five-year period was made by James Agras and seconded by James Grandon.

VOTE: All were in favor as indicated by unanimous vote.

RE-ACCREDITATION OF GREATER JOHNSTOWN CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER

A motion to approve re-accreditation of Greater Johnstown Career and Technology Center’s postsecondary programs was made by James Agras and seconded by Mollie Phillips.

VOTE: All were in favor as indicated by unanimous vote.

PETITION OF THE CONNELLSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT SEEKING STATUS AS A SINGLE DISTRICT CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER

A motion to approve the petition of the Connellsville Area School District seeking status as a single district career and technology center was made by James Agras and seconded by Craig Snider.

VOTE: All were in favor as indicated by unanimous vote.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items of business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 a.m. on a Williams/Snider motion.

Stephanie Jones
Administrative Assistant